

Appl. No. 10/751,725
Atty. Docket No. 8222D
Amdt. dated 12/29/2004
Reply to Office Action of 10/04/2004
Customer No. 27752

2

Claims Listing

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. *(Currently amended)* An absorbent fibrous structure comprising a web of entangled synthetic fibers, said fibers being eccentric bicomponent fibers, and said web having a top surface and a bottom surface, and further having a center region wherein: (a) said fibers are not thermally bonded to one another in said center region; or (b) if said fibers are thermally bonded to one another in said center region, said web is characterized by a gradient of thermal bonding through the thickness of the web with a higher degree of thermal bonding at the top and bottom surfaces relative to the center region; wherein said web has an Ambient Temperature (22 C) Oil Absorbency of at least about 7 g/g.
2. *(Canceled)*
3. *(Currently amended)* An absorbent fibrous structure as in ~~Claim 2~~ Claim 1, wherein fibers comprise a first, oleophilic component and a second component that is more hydrophilic than said first component and has a Tg or Tm of at least 120 C.

Claims 4-9. *(Canceled)*

10. *(Previously presented)* An absorbent structure as in Claim 1, wherein said web has a density of about 100 mg/cm³ or less.
11. *(Previously presented)* An absorbent structure as in Claim 10, wherein said web comprises eccentric bicomponent fibers having fiber length of at least about 2 cm.
12. *(Previously presented)* An absorbent structure as in Claim 3, wherein said web has a density of about 100 mg/cm³ or less.

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3

13. (*Previously presented*) An absorbent structure as in Claim 12, wherein said web comprises eccentric bicomponent fibers having fiber length of at least about 2 cm.